State of Palestine
Ministry of Health
Minister's Office

دولـــة فـلـسـطين
وزارة الصحة
مكتب الوزير

Thursday: 16/11/2023

Day 41 of Israeli Occupation aggression on Palestine

Daily report on the effects of the Israeli Occupation aggression in Palestine

Current situation in Palestine from **7th of October to 16th of November 2023 – 10:00 am**

The information in this report as of Thursday morning, 16/11/2023. There are significant difficulties in obtaining updated information due to the interruption of communication services in the Gaza Strip.

Emergency operations center in the ministry of health Ramallah oversees the data collection process through its offices in Gaza.Figures updated every 24 hours. These numbers reflect the verified statistics only but does not necessarily reflect all causalities given the fact that many victims remain missing under the rubble.

- **Highlights:**
  - **Hospitals and health : 9 hospitals out of 35 partially functioning while 26 hospitals are not functioning.**

- For the fifth consecutive day, the Ministry of Health faced challenges updating casualty figures due to service and communication collapse in northern hospitals. The reported fatality toll of Palestinians in Gaza as of 15 November at was 11,470 of whom 4,707 are children, 3,155 women and 686 elderly. The number of injured reached more than 29 thousand.
- On 15 November, Israeli troops, including tanks, entered Shifa hospital compound in Gaza city and reportedly took control of several sections, searched them and interrogated people, bombardments hit and damaged parts of it, including the specialized surgeries department, the coronary care division, and a warehouse. After the troops entered, patients, staff and IDPs were reportedly relocated within the compound.
- In Al-Shifa Hospital, 40 patients, including three premature babies, have died since November 11, due to a lack of fuel and the closure of its departments after being besieged by the occupation forces.
- There is no drinking water or food in Al-Shifa Hospital, neither for patients nor for employees, in addition to what they are suffering from.

- Medical teams inside Al-Shifa Hospital cannot move between departments and buildings of the medical complex, as an Israeli drone shoots at anyone who moves inside or around the complex.
- Out of 24 hospitals with in-patient capacity in the north, only one, Al Ahli in Gaza city, is presently operational and admitting patients. Eighteen hospitals have shut down and evacuated since the start of hostilities, including three – An Nasr, Ar Rantisi and Al Quds – over the past three days.
- Another five hospitals, including Shifa, are providing extremely limited services to patients who have already been admitted. These hospitals are not accessible, do not have electricity and supplies and are not admitting new patients.
- The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) reported that it has been unable to respond to hundreds of calls to assist and evacuate people wounded or trapped under the rubble.
- Hospitals and medical personnel are specifically protected under international humanitarian law (IHL) must be protected. Any military operation around or within hospitals must take steps to spare and protect the patients, medical staff, and other civilians as well as the health facilities. All feasible precautions must be taken, including effective warnings, which consider the ability of patients, medical staff and other civilians to evacuate safely.
- The entry of fuel remains banned including for hospital generators and water and sanitation facilities. Given that the hospitals need at least 100-120 thousand liters of fuel daily to operate, while UNRWA requires about 160,000 liters of fuel per day to run basic humanitarian operations. It has had to halt key services.
- For the third consecutive day, the main generator at Al Amal hospital in Khan Younis shut down due to lack of fuel. The hospital has been running one small generator which is supplying electricity to the labor room and the lights in the reception area.
- Humanitarian agencies and first responders have warned that blackouts jeopardize the provision of life-saving assistance.
- The consumption of water from unsafe sources raises serious concerns about dehydration and waterborne diseases. The World Food Program (WFP) has expressed concern about malnutrition and starvation.

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Dr. Mai Alkaila
Minister of Health

- **Key points :**
- 202 martyrs of health personnel, 36 martyrs of the Civil Defense and More than 200 wounded of health personnel
- IDPs fleeing from the north are reporting the presence of dead bodies in the streets. As of 15 November, More than 3640 civilians are still missing of them 1770 child, remain missing and presumed to be trapped or dead under the rubble.
- Due to the disruption of communications in the northern area, the impact of the Israeli aggression remains unclear.

- On 15 November, around midday, the As Salam Mill in Deir Al Balah was reportedly hit and destroyed. This was the last functioning mill in Gaza, and its destruction means that locally produced flour will not be available in Gaza in the foreseeable future.
- Also on 15 November, Gaza's telecom companies announced the gradual cessation of all communication and internet services in the Strip, following the exhaustion of fuel reserves to operate generators.
- In the north, hundreds of thousands of people who are unwilling or unable to move to the south remain amid intense hostilities. They are struggling to secure the minimum amount of water and food for survival.
- The UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Martin Griffiths, stated today that "the carnage in Gaza cannot be allowed to continue," presenting a ten-step plan to address the unfolding humanitarian crisis, including agreeing on a humanitarian ceasefire, respecting international humanitarian law, and allowing the entry of fuel.
- Ongoing Israeli occupation aggression, movement restrictions, and shortages of electricity, fuel, water, medicines, and essential items hinder humanitarian agencies and personnel from providing assistance safely.

Health System

- **Gaza Strip:**

- 10,000 oncology patients were being treated in Al-Rantisi and Turkish Hospital, were left to die, after they were expelled from the hospitals by the occupation.
- Doctors are compelled to perform surgeries without anesthesia, including for those wounded by Israeli bombardment and women undergoing C-sections.
  - More than 60 ambulances were attacked, 55 are damaged and out of service, only seven of the 18 Palestine Red Crescent Society ambulances in the north were still operational, but they were at risk of completely ceasing operations due to running out of fuel
  - 26/35 hospitals in Gaza and 52/72 primary health care clinics (more than two-thirds) have shut down due to damage from the bombardment or lack of fuel.

- **West Bank including east Jerusalem:**

- The number of martyrs in the West Bank since 07/10/2023, until the preparation of this report, reached 197, and the number of injured reached approximately 2,750.
- The number of Palestinians killed in the West Bank since 7 October accounts for 43% of all Palestinian fatalities in the West Bank from 1/1/2023.
- First response -emergency capabilities have been overwhelmed by the increase in injuries due to Israeli occupation forces aggression, with high demand for emergency medical supplies in hospitals.

- The closure of Israeli occupation checkpoints, lack of safety, movement restrictions and attacks on health facilities and personnel make the movement of ambulances difficult, restrict the movement of healthcare workers, and patients' access to primary care and hospitals between West Bank towns and Jerusalem.
- Parts of Area C are still inaccessible to partners running mobile clinics, leaving residents without access to basic healthcare services.

Destroyed buildings:

- More than 58% (almost 276,000) of housing units are destroyed, completely destroyed units: more than 54 thousand, partially destroyed housing units: 222 thousand.
- The final count of destruction is not available as the bombardment is continuing.
- At least 7 churches and 73 mosques damaged.

Displacement

A tent camp where displaced Palestinian families take refuge in southern Gaza. On 15 November, the
extended their evacuation calls, thus far limited to the northern Gaza Strip, to parts of the south. Phot
November 2023

A tent camp where displaced Palestinian families take refuge in southern Gaza. On 15 November, the Israeli authorities extended their evacuation calls, thus far limited to the northern Gaza Strip, to parts of the south. Photo by WHO, 15 November 2023

- The Israeli occupation persists in targeting civilians who are forcibly displaced, whether within shelters or while on the roads seeking safety in the southern region of Gaza.
- UNRWA indicated that Israeli Occupation forces entered one of its schools and two health centers in the northern region, compelling the forcibly displaced sheltering there to evacuate towards the south. The two health centers were then bombarded.
- In Rafah, an UNRWA guest house designated as housing for UN staff was targeted by Israeli occupation naval strikes, resulting in severe damage.
- The cumulative number of forcibly displaced people since the start of the war in Gaza is estimated at over 1.6 million almost 70 % of the population in Gaza Strip.
- Around **183,000** forcibly displaced are sheltering in **154** UNRWA facilities in the north. UNRWA, however, is no longer able to provide services in those areas and does not have accurate information on people's needs

and conditions since the Israeli forcible displacement and forced evacuation of all humanitarian actors on 12 October.

- 15% of forcibly displaced suffer from various disabilities, and most shelter centres are not adequately equipped to meet their needs.
- An imminent public health catastrophe looms in the setting of mass displacement, overcrowding of shelters, damage to the water and sanitation infrastructure.

Needs:

- immediate ceasefire to end this aggressive war.
- The protection of civilians is paramount, and the continuation of violence only results in further loss of life and suffering.
- Immediate Healthcare Assistance:
  - Urgent assistance is required to ensure a stable supply of these essential resources. Hospitals in Gaza are operating in dire conditions, lacking access to fuel, electricity, and water.
  - Protection and Safety of Medical Personnel: The safety and security of healthcare workers are of utmost importance. The United Nations must advocate for the protection of healthcare facilities and personnel to ensure they can continue to provide care without fear of harm.
  - Protection of health facilities, hospitals, PHC
  - Protection of ambulances and their staff are under constant threat, making it challenging to evacuate and provide care for the injured. The protection of ambulances and their safe passage in conflict zones is paramount.
  - Immediate support is needed to establish effective search and rescue operations. Search and Rescue Operations, People are trapped under rubble, making rescue and evacuation extremely challenging.